

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

WEDNESDAY, 3 JUNE 2015
ROOM 29, PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS

Present: Ms Michaela Boyle (Chairperson)
Mr John Dallat (Deputy Chairperson)
Mr Trevor Clarke
Mr Paul Girvan
Mr Ross Hussey
Mr Adrian McQuillan
Mr Sean Rogers
Mr Jim Wells

In Attendance: Ms Lucia Wilson (Assembly Clerk)
Mr Jack Peel (Assistant Assembly Clerk)
Mrs Danielle Saunders (Clerical Supervisor)
Mr Darren Weir (Clerical Officer)

Apologies: Mr Roy Beggs

2.02pm The meeting began in open session

1. Apologies

An apology was received from Mr Beggs.

2. Minutes of the Meeting of 20 May 2015

Agreed: The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed.

3. Correspondence

Correspondence received from Carnegie UK Trust

The Committee noted the correspondence from the Carnegie UK Trust.

Correspondence received from Consulate-General of the People's Republic of China in Belfast

The Committee noted the correspondence from the Consulate-General of the People's Republic of China.

4. Matters Arising

There are no new matters arising.

2.04pm Mr Girvan joined the meeting

2.05pm Mr Girvan left the meeting

2.05pm The meeting moved into closed session

.

5. Inquiry into Cross Border Broadband Initiative – the Bytel Project – Consideration of Draft Report.

2.06pm Mr Girvan re-joined the meeting

2.08pm Mr McQuillan joined the meeting

Agreed: The Committee considered its draft report on the above inquiry.

Main Body of Report:

Paragraphs 1-9	Read and Agreed
Paragraph 10	Read, Amended and Agreed
Paragraphs 11-12	Read and Agreed
Recommendation 1	Read and Agreed
Paragraphs 13-16	Read and Agreed
Recommendation 2	Read and Agreed
Paragraphs 17-21	Read and Agreed
Paragraph 22	Read, Amended and Agreed
Paragraphs 23-25	Read and Agreed
Paragraph 26	Read, Amended and Agreed
Recommendation 3	Read and Agreed
Paragraphs 27-30	Read and Agreed
Paragraph 31	Read, Amended and Agreed
Paragraph 32	Read and Agreed
Recommendation 4	Read and Agreed
Paragraph 33-38	Read and Agreed
Recommendation 5	Read and Agreed
Paragraph 39-40	Read and Agreed
Recommendation 6	Read and Agreed
Paragraph 41-43	Read and Agreed
Recommendation 7	Read and Agreed
Paragraph 44-47	Read and Agreed
Recommendation 8	Read and Agreed
Paragraphs 48-49	Read and Agreed

Executive Summary:

Paragraphs 1-8	Read and Agreed
----------------	-----------------

Conclusions:

Paragraphs 9-16	Read and Agreed
Paragraph 17	Read, Amended and Agreed
Paragraphs 18-19	Read and Agreed

Summary of Recommendations:

Recommendations 1-8 Read and Agreed

Agreed: The Committee agreed the minutes, minutes of evidence and correspondence to be included as appendices to the report.

Agreed: The Committee ordered the report to be printed

Agreed: The Committee agreed the report to be launched on Wednesday 1 July 2015 and for a press release to be brought before the Committee on Wednesday 17 June 2015. The Committee agreed that the Press Release should refer to the report of the PAC in the Oireachtas which is to be launched on the same day.

2.21pm Mr Wells joined the meeting

2.24pm Mr Rogers left the meeting

6. Inquiry into DRD – The Effectiveness of Public Transport in Northern Ireland

Agreed: The Committee agreed to note DRD's responses to the follow up questions from the evidence session and to take account of these in their report.

2.34pm Mr Rogers re-joined the meeting

7. Forward Work Programme

Agreed: The Committee noted the Forward Work Programme.

8. Any Other Business

Committee Visit to the National Assembly for Wales

Agreed: The Committee agreed that a delegation of Members should visit the PAC in the National Assembly of Wales on 23/24 June 2015.

Agreed: The Committee agreed that the delegation should be limited to one Member per Party.

The Chairperson, the Deputy Chairperson and Mr Wells confirmed their interest in making the trip. Mr Hussey indicated that he may be able to make the trip if the travel itinerary could be changed to include a return flight via Cardiff airport rather than via Birmingham airport. The Clerk said she would look again at the travel itinerary.

Review of PAC Protective Markings

Agreed: The Committee agreed to revise the PAC protective markings for briefing and issues papers as recommended in the Clerk's paper.

9. Date, time and place of next meeting

Members were advised that the next meeting of the Committee would be at 2pm on Wednesday 10th June in Room 29, Parliament Buildings.

2.48pm Meeting adjourned

Ms Michaela Boyle
Chairperson, Public Accounts Committee